

MERLOT Awards: Application of MERLOT – Institutional Stewardship

Application of MERLOT award recognizes those who demonstrate leadership in the use and application of MERLOT. **Institutional Stewardship** award recognizes efforts to promote MERLOT at an institutional level. MERLOT seeks to identify models that can be used to sustain support for MERLOT and that demonstrate the value of MERLOT. Recipients of the award will be judged by the MERLOT Management team. (Maximum of two each year). The recipient of the award (individual or group) will have exhibited an outstanding example of stewardship in spreading the use of MERLOT through-out the campus or system. Examples of actions or guidelines should be provided with one of the following results: Evidence of diffusion of MERLOT and/or a means of demonstrating effectiveness of MERLOT. Nominations for this award are due January 31st for presentation at the MERLOT International Conference. Recipients of this award include:

2014



Two winners were selected this year – **MEITAL/MAOR** (accepting the award, **Eli Shmueli**) the consortium of Israeli universities that partner with MERLOT and **INACAP**, MERLOT's first formal international partner, which integrates MERLOT's services into 28 campuses in Chile.



2013



This year's winner is **Robbie Melton** Associate Vice Chancellor of eLearning and Emerging Mobilization Technology at the Tennessee Board of Regents. Robbie has published and presented around the nation the impact and value of mobilization for education and the workforce and has acquired a new distinction as an "App-ologist", due to her study of the pedagogy and best teaching practices with mobilization, quality standards for the utilization of mobile apps, and for her creation of the Mobile App Education and Workforce Resource Center. Robbie also serves as the Project Director of the Tennessee Board of Regents and has worked with the MERLOT staff to ensure that mobile apps are addressed. She has worked tirelessly with her MERLOT group of faculty to help provide mobile resources to the MERLOT collection and to see that those resources are peer reviewed.

2010

MEITAL/MAOR - Accepting award from Gerry Hanley is **Eli Shmueli**. MEITAL is a consortium of Israeli universities that partners with MERLOT to access and contribute materials to the MERLOT website and repository. Faculty at these institutions, through a coordinated consortium plan are actively using materials in the MERLOT collection in their own teaching and learning. As well, the consortium is actively submitting Hebrew language materials to the collection. This latter activity would not have been possible without MERLOT and MEITAL's cooperative development and testing of a significant upgrade to the MERLOT (Oracle) database that resulted in our community's ability to submit, search, etc, materials in foreign languages.



CSU Noyce Scholars Program Team - Accepting award from Gerry Hanley is Elizabeth Ambros, Co-Director. CSU Noyce Scholars is a community of educators and student teachers dedicated to improve the quality of teaching and learning in Science and Math with online resources with a special focus on California's high need schools is at the heart of this project. The National Science Foundation's Noyce Scholars Program has provided the leaderships and support to help prepare the teachers of tomorrow to be successful in our high need schools. The CSU Noyce Scholars program was granted an NSF award to use the MERLOT collection and teaching commons to develop a set of services to support student teachers and new teachers in high need schools in California. Although the design of the website is focused on serving the needs of CSU Noyce Scholars, the website is an open educational resource for everyone to use.



2009



Deborah Proctor - (Minnesota State Colleges and Universities) Deborah is the Project Director of MERLOT for the MNSCU and has been influential in recruiting significant support for MERLOT. Currently, she serves as the e-Curriculum Director for Academic Innovations and chaired the 8th MERLOT International Conference Committee (MIC08) hosted by Minnesota State Colleges and Universities August 7-10, 2008. The success of the MIC08 conference in St. Paul can be contributed to many of the behind the scenes details that Deborah initiated.



Ron Purser - San Francisco State University

Rassoul Yazdipour - California State University - Fresno

The CSU Business Teaching Commons was formed in 2006, beginning as a small community of members – CSU faculty, staff, administrators - who shared a common interest in enhancing the quality of teaching and learning in the business disciplines with online resources, and linking them to MERLOT. Over several years a website was developed to provide a collaborative space for CSU business faculty, which also provided ease of use for accessing MERLOT materials.

2008



University of Michigan’s MERLOT@UM Team – Victor Wong, Project Director for University of Michigan had this to say about the UM Team: *“The genesis of the MERLOT project arose from the above and some broader issues brewing on campus: How do we overcome cross-disciplinary communication barriers? What synergy do we gain in collaborating cross-disciplinarily? How do we foster a culture of re-use of appropriate and effective learning objects across the disciplines?”*

They addressed the above concern/issues by forming the MERLOT@U-M

Cross-disciplinary Community of Practice, using the following approach:

- Put a local branding on MERLOT to make it more connected to their campus
- Select interested faculty and staff from diverse disciplines to join MERLOT@U-M
- Send the selected faculty/staff to the 2006 MERLOT International Conference with each one committed to participate in MERLOT@U-M throughout the academic year
- Secure travel funding support from the Office of the Provost and the College of Literature, Arts, and the Sciences, our largest college.
- Solicit decentralized support/approval for the selected persons’ ongoing MERLOT involvement from their chair/supervisor.
- Obtain centralized support/approval from the Office of Provost
- Push for sponsorship from the external professional or disciplinary societies.

After the conference, the MERLOT@U-M Community of Practice met monthly during 2006–2007 to:

- Promote campus awareness of MERLOT
- Promote campus usage of learning objects
- Develop UM collection of learning objects aimed at the UM market as well as MERLOT”

Jim Rutledge – St. Petersburg College – Jim “pioneered the adaptation of the new MERLOT Personal Collection service for departmental use by college faculty, both full-time and adjunct. He created six sets of college-wide Department Collections for St. Petersburg College (SPC) under the usernames of: spcmath, spscience, spceducation, sphealthscience, spchistory andspcbusiness. In the process of doing so, he also developed a set of instructional materials on how to establish these customized Department Collections at any educational institution; these materials are posted on the MERLOT Mathematics portal under the Teaching column.



- The advantages of Department Collections are:

- department faculty can add relevant MERLOT materials and annotations concerning their use of the collections; these materials and annotations are then available to all department faculty, thus forming a sense of shared purpose and collaboration
- collections encourage departmental use of high-quality, Web-based learning materials
- collections provide adjunct faculty, in particular, with a department-specific set of relevant learning materials
- collections provide a central location for department materials in large, multi-campus institutions

These department collections have certainly helped to raise awareness of MERLOT and its Web-based resources. Almost all of the 28 SPC faculty who became members of MERLOT since the collections were established have been members of a department with a Department Collection. In addition, faculty in those departments use the collections and materials with their students; some of them also have their students join MERLOT as indicated by MERLOT Membership data.”